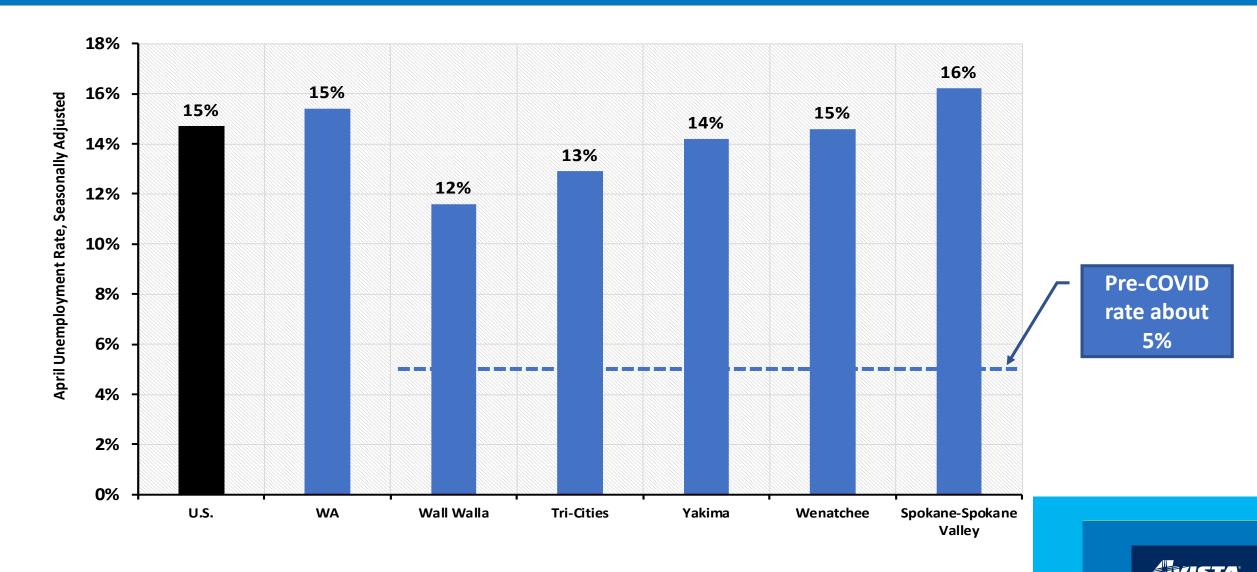


East Washington Issues Related to COVID-19

Presented to: Senate Special Committee on Economic Recovery

Grant Forsyth, Ph.D. Chief Economist June 16, 2020

Eastern Washington April Unemployment Rates



Supporting the Economic Recovery, General Comments

- Acknowledging <u>under-employment</u> and not just unemployment.
- Continued support for <u>state and local ESD re-employment activities</u>, as well as regional work force councils, economic development agencies, and community colleges.
- Support <u>pre-COVID capital projects</u> if they have significant direct and indirect employment impacts and support long-term economic growth.
- The provision of <u>highspeed internet</u> outside of population centers.
- State push back against another significant international trade conflict.



Supporting the Economic Recovery, Areas of Analysis



- Healthcare, including public health.
- Resiliency of utilities and emergency services.
- Food network farm to table: growing, transporting, processing, and distribution.
- K-12 education and the connection to employment, household budgets, and food security.



Questions?

